

REMARKS

Claims 25-31 were allowed, and claims 7, 10, 17 and 20 were objected to as dependent upon rejected base claims. Applicant has amended claim 1, the only rejected independent claim, to include the limitations of claims 5 and 7. Claim 7 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant has added the limitations of claims 5 and 7 to claim 1, and amended claim 1 is now allowable.

Applicant points out that claim 1 was not amended to include all of the limitations of the claims intervening between claims 1 and claim 7. However, the addition to claim 1 of the limitations of claims 5 and 7, and the recitation that the second scraper has a first end removably mounted to the body laterally of the blade, are sufficient to distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. This is because no prior art reference shows a blade cleaning apparatus with a first scraper having a first end mounted in the body's channel and a second end extending away from the first end like a cantilever and terminating in an edge seated against the first surface of the blade (these are the limitations from claims 5 and 7), or a second scraper with an end positioned laterally of the blade. The advantage of the claimed configuration is the ability to remove the blade from between the scrapers by simply removing the fastener that holds the end of the second scraper in place on the body laterally of the blade. Therefore, the amended claim 1 is allowable, and all claims dependent thereon are allowable.

The drawings were objected to, and Applicant has amended the drawings by adding a phantom blade 60 to Fig. 1, which is a perspective view. No new matter is added, because the blade 60 is shown in the same position in Fig. 4.

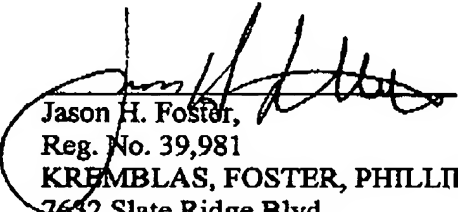
The specification was objected to for informalities, all of which are addressed by the amendments to the specification contained herein.

Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. The examiner is authorized to communicate with the undersigned attorney by email by the following recommended authorization language: Recognizing that Internet communications are not secure, I hereby authorize the USPTO to communicate with me concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file. (authorization pursuant to MPEP 502.03)

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 13-3393 for any insufficient fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or credit any overpayment of fees.

Respectfully submitted,

14 June 2005
Date of Signature


Jason H. Foster,
Reg. No. 39,981
KREMBLAS, FOSTER, PHILLIPS & POLLOCK
7632 Slate Ridge Blvd.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Voice: 614/575-2100
Fax: 614/575-2149
email: jfoster@ohiopatent.com

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